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WHY SHOULD YOU BE LEFT OUT OF THE FUN. JIM ONLY LEARNED A SHORT TIME AGO. LEARNED BY MAIL—SAID IT WAS EASY
CAN YOU REALLY LEARN TO PLAY THAT GOOD BY MAIL—WHERE DO YOU GET THE COURSE?
IT'S THE JIM MAJOR EASY WAY—WHY DON'T YOU SEND FOR IT AND SEE
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GEE! LOOK AT ALL THE FUN I'VE BEEN MISSING, WISH I HAD TAKEN THAT EASY JIM MAJOR COURSE LONG AGO.
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Introducing the TWO-GUN KID

OUT OF THE WEST RIDES A LONE FIGURE—TWO GUNS AT HIS HIPS, A SONG ON HIS LIPS, SEEKING ADVENTURE, FIGHTING INJUSTICE, AND RIGHTING WRONGS!

HIS NAME IS A LEGEND ON THE TONGUES OF THE PEOPLE, WHO FOREVER SPEAK OF HIS COURAGE AND VALOR!

2473

INTO THE TOWN OF SUNDOWN, ARIZONA, RIDES A SMILING, SINGING STRANGER...

I GOT TWO GUNS THAT BARK AND ROAR,
THEY'RE SHOOTING DAY AND NIGHT,
I GOT TWO GUNS AND WISH I HAD FOUR,
BECAUSE I LIKE TO FIGHT!
ODE-LADEE-DEE-OOO-!

SUDDENLY, A SHOT RINGS OUT!

ZINGG!

OH-OH! THIS IS LIKE OLD TIMES, EH, CYCLONE?

WHEN THERE'S TROUBLE AROUND, THE BEST THING TO DO IS HEAD RIGHT FOR IT, EH, CYCLONE?

...AND NEXT TIME I ASK ANYBODY TO HAVE A DRINK WITH ME, HE'D BETTER *NOT* REFUSE!

LIKE GREASED LIGHTNING, THE KID AND CYCLONE CHARGE INTO THE SALOON, READY FOR ACTION!

I WOULDN'T WAVE THAT GUN AROUND IF I WAS YOU, PODNER! IT MIGHT GO OFF AND HURT SOMEBODY!

SUFFRIN' COYOTES! LEM, WHO'S THAT?

DON'T KNOW, BUT HE MUST BE A STRANGER IN THESE PARTS, TO TALK THETAWAY!

I HOPE FOR YOUR SAKE YOU *WEREN'T* ADDRESSING *ME*, STRANGER! I JUST DON'T LIKE ANYONE TO RAISE HIS VOICE TO ME!

WAL, NOW! SUH - LOOKS LIKE YOU AND ME SHOULD HAVE A CONFAB!

MOVE OVER, PAL! MAKE ROOM FOR ME! FIREWORKS WILL BE STARTING ANY MINUTE NOW!

I DON'T LIKE YOUR MANNER OR YOUR FACE! RECKON AS I'LL HAVE TO RUB THEM *BOTH* OUT! DRAW YOUR SHOOTING IRON!

HOLD ON, NOW! GITTIN' KILLED IN A GUN DUEL IS MIGHTY *PERMANENT!* THINK IT OVER!

YA SNIVELING COWARD! FULL OF BIG TALK, BUT AFRAID TO FIGHT, AIN'CHA?

I'M RIGHT SORRY YOU DID THAT, PODNER! YEP, POWFUL SORRY!

FASTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW, A BLACK BOOT LASHES OUT...

NOW THET THAT PIECE OF IRON IS OUTER YORE HANDS, PODNER, WE'LL SEE HOW BRAVE YOU ARE!

WHY, YOU...

HOPE YOU'LL EXCUSE THE GLOVE!

CRACK!

BAM!

NOW THAT THE COMMOTION'S DIED DOWN, RECKON AS HOW I'LL HAVE A LARGE, HEAPIN' GLASS OF MILK!

BRETT? BRETT? WHERE'S MY FELLA?

IF THAT'S THE HOMBRE YER LOOKING FOR, MA'M, YOU'LL FIND HIM RESTING UP A BIT DOWN THERE!

BRETT, OH, BRETT! YOU'RE...

HE'S HURT YOU! YOU'RE BLEEDING!

LEMME ALONE! I'M ALL RIGHT!

YOU SNEERING BULLY! TAKE THAT!

WHAMO!

LOOKS LIKE THIS IS MY DAY TO GET SLAPPED, EH, MARSHAL? HOPE *YORE* NOT GOING TO TRY IT TOO!

YORE QUITE A FIREBRAND, SON! KNOW WHO THAT CRITTER WAS?

THAT WAS BRETT DAWSON AND HIS GAL, GLORIA! HE'S THE BIGGEST MAN IN THESE HYAR PARTS, AND A TOUGH HOMBRE TO HAVE AS AN ENEMY!

DO YA MIND IF I FINISH SIPPIN' MY MILK AFORE I BEGIN TREMBLIN', MARSHAL?

WELL, THIS LOOKS LIKE A NICE, LITTLE TOWN, EH, CYCLONE? RECKON WE'LL SETTLE HERE FOR A SPELL!

HOW MUCH IS A ROOM FOR TONIGHT, PODNER?

SORRY, COWBOY! AIN'T GOT NO ROOMS FOR ANYBODY WHO'S AN ENEMY OF BRETT DAWSON!

ROOMS

SWIFTLY, A BLACK GUN APPEARS AS IF FROM NOWHERE...

NOW DON'T GET MAD AT ME, SON! DON'T SHOOT— *PLEASE DON'T SHOOT!*

RELAX, PODNER! I WASN'T MEANIN' TO SHOOT YOU...

I JUST FIGURE IF YORE *NOT* RENTIN' ANY ROOMS, YOU WON'T BE NEEDIN' THAT SIGN ANYMORE!

OW!

BANG!

BANG!

BOOT

HOWDY, SMITHY! HOW 'BOUT 'SPECTIN' MY STALLION'S HORSESHOES? WE'VE DONE A LOT OF HARD RIDIN' THESE PAST FEW WEEKS!

BLACKSMITH

SORRY, COWBOY! BUSY NOW!

'SPOSE *YORE* GOIN' TO TELL ME YOU CAIN'T LOOK AT MY HORSE'S SHOES COS' I HAD A SLIGHT ARGUMENT WITH THAT GUY, DAWSON, EH?

THAT'S ABOUT IT, AMIGO! I WOULDN'T BE WORTH A PLUGGED NICKEL IF DAWSON FOUND OUT I HAD DEALINGS WITH YA!

LOOKS AS IF BRETT DAWSON REALLY *DOES* HAVE THIS TOWN SEWED UP! TELL ME, SMITHY, YOU LOOK LIKE A REGULAR GUY—WHY DO YA PUT UP WITH HIM?

NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO, COWBOY!

EVER SINCE OLE RALPH DAWSON PASSED AWAY, AND HIS SON, BRETT, INHERITED ALL HIS MONEY AND PROPERTY, THINGS AIN'T BEEN THE SAME 'ROUND HERE!

5

YOUNG BRETT DAWSON CAME BACK FROM COLLEGE AND TOOK OVER THE WHOLE TOWN – AND WHILE HIS FATHER WAS A LAW-ABIDIN' FAIR-N-SQUARE MAN, BRETT'S JUST A SPOILED, NO-GOOD, BULLYIN' COYOTE, AND THE FASTEST MAN ON THE DRAW IN SLINDOWN!

AND THERE'S ***NOTHING*** WE CAN DO ABOUT IT! DAWSON HOLDS MORTGAGES ON EVERY HOME, AND ANYBODY WHO CROSSES HIM EITHER WINDS UP WITH BULLET-HOLE VENTILATION OR HOMELESS!

TOO BAD ABOUT HIS FIANCÉE, GLORIA, THOUGH! SHE'S A NICE GIRL, AND NO ONE'S GOT THE HEART TO TELL HER WHAT A COYOTE HER FUTURE HUSBAND IS!

THANKS A LOT, PARD! NOW, IS THET THE WAY TO THE DAWSON RANCH?

YEP, IF YOU HEAD THAT WAY, YA CAN'T MISS IT!

SUFFERIN' COYOTES! Y'AIN'T MEANING TO GO THERE, ARE YA? WHY YORE A DEAD PIGEON IF Y' DO!

I'VE BEEN A DEAD PIGEON AFORE, AND I'M STILL GALLOPIN' 'ROUND! S'LONG, POP!

AND SO, WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT, THE TWO-GUN KID RIDES INTO ENEMY TERRITORY, STRAIGHT AND TALL IN THE SADDLE... A SONG ON HIS LIPS, AND ADVENTURE IN HIS HEART!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE MAIN ROOM OF THE DAWSON RANCH HOUSE, A TENSE SCENE IS TAKING PLACE BETWEEN BRETT AND HIS FIANCÉE ...

THAT'LL TEACH YA NOT TO PUT YOUR SNOOPING NOSE INTO MY BUSINESS, YA SNIVLIN' FEMALE!

YOU... SLAPPED ME!

NEXT TIME, SEE TO IT THAT YOU DON'T GO TELLIN' ME ***WHICH*** MORTGAGES TO FORECLOSE AND WHICH ***NOT*** TO FORECLOSE!

BUT, BRETT, THE ROGERS HAVE BEEN LIVING IN THAT HOUSE FOR THE PAST 37 YEARS! YOU JUST ***CAIN'T*** TURN THEM OUT!

I CAN DO IT, AND I *WILL* DO IT! I'M TOP MAN IN THESE PARTS, AND WHAT I SAY GOES!

IT'S TRUE THEN! AT LAST MY EYES ARE OPEN! YOU'RE EVERYTHING FOLKS SAY! AND TO THINK I USED TO DEFEND YOU! WHAT A FOOL, WHAT A *BLIND FOOL* I'VE BEEN!

I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE! BRETT DAWSON'S MAD!

COME BACK, YOU VIXEN! I'LL GIT YOU, WHEREVER YOU GO!

YOU'RE NOT LEAVIN' ME, NOW OR EVER! WE'RE GITTIN' HITCHED RIGHT AWAY!

NO! NO! NOT THAT! I HATE YOU— *HATE YOU!*

SO-O *YOU'VE* TURNED AGAINST ME TOO! WAL, IF *I* CAIN'T HAVE YOU, *NO ONE* KIN! I'LL *KILL* YOU FIRST!

YOU CAIN'T MEAN WHAT YOU'RA SAYIN'! PUT ME DOWN! LET ME GO, I SAY!

I'LL BRING YOU OUT TO THE PLATEAU, AND NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW! YOU'LL BE MINE ALONE! I'LL FOOL THEM ALL!

BUT, AS IF IN LEAGUE WITH FATE, THE TWO-GUN KID COMES IN SIGHT OF THE RANCH AT THAT MOMENT.

HERE'S THE DAWSON PLACE! RECKON AS HOW IT'S TIME FOR A NEIGHBORLY VISIT, EH, CYCLONE?

HOWLIN' COYOTES! THAT'S THE HOMBRE THE BOSS HAD A RUN-IN WITH IN TOWN!

HMMM, LOOK AS IF I'M IN FOR A LITTLE RECEPTION!

IF DAWSON FINDS OUT HE SET FOOT ON HIS TERRITORY, HE'LL SKIN US ALL ALIVE!

LET'S TAKE CARE OF 'IM, BOYS!

SAY, STRANGER, WE'LL GIVE YOU 3 SECONDS TO GET OFFEN THIS PLACE!

IT'S YOUR SKIN OR OURS, AND WE'RE AIMIN' TO KEEP **OURS!**

WAL, NOW, THAT AIN'T VERY NEIGHBORLY, Y' KNOW!

FASTER THAN A WILD PINTO, THE TWO-GUN KID WHIPS INTO GALVANIZED ACTION!

RECKON I'LL HAVE TO TEACH THEM SOME MANNERS!

HOLY SMOKE! WHERE'D HE GO?

ATTABOY, CYCLONE, KEEP AGOIN'!

LOOK OUT, HE'S GOT US!

RELAX, BOYS! YA CAN GET DOWN SOON AS YOU UNTIE THE KNOT!

I'M STAYING OUT OF THAT HOMBRE'S WAY FROM NOW ON!

I SEE IT, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

MOMENTS LATER...

DON'T-BRETT-YOU CAIN'T BE SERIOUS!

YOU'LL FIND OUT HOW SERIOUS I AM! NO GAL SPURNS BRETT DAWSON—AND LIVES!

SAY—THAT HOMBRE'S SURE BURNIN' UP THE RANGE!

THE SHARP EARS AND EYES OF THE TWO-GUN KID QUICKLY TAKE IN THE WHOLE SCENE!

HELP!

GALLOPIN' CACTUS! IT'S DAWSON—AND HE'S HURTIN' THAT GAL!

I'M BEIN' FOLLOWED! IT'S THAT CRITTER WHO FOUGHT ME IN TOWN! I'LL SHOW 'IM! I'LL SHOW 'EM ALL!

LET'S GO, CYCLONE!

BRETT— DON'T!

OH...!

GOT 'IM!

BANG!

THAT HOMBRE'S GOT A GOOD EYE—BUT HE WON'T GIT ANOTHER CHANCE!

WE CAIN'T GO ANY FURTHER!

THAT'S RIGHT, GLORIA—THIS IS THE END OF THE TRAIL FOR YOU!

WONDER WHAT THAT COYOTE IS UP TO!

YOU'RE MAD— I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY— I'VE GOT TO!

YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME!

HA, HA! THIS IS WHAT I PLANNED FOR YOU ANYWAY— THANKS FOR MAKIN' IT SO EASY FOR ME — GOOD-BY, GAL! HA, HA, HA!

BRETT—DON'T CUT THAT ROPE! BRETT!

WHA..?

PING!

I'M GIVIN'YA MORE OF A CHANCE THAN YOU DESERVE, DAWSON... DRAW YORE GUN BEFORE I SEND YA DOWN THE LAST TRAIL!

YOU *FOOL!* I'M THE FASTEST SHOT IN THIS STATE... YOU HAVEN'T A *CHANCE* WITH A WINGED ARM! I'LL *KILL* YOU!

FASTER THAN THE LIGHTNING STING OF A BULL-WHIP, A GUN APPEARS IN DAWSON'S RIGHT HAND—A GUN AIMED AT THE HEART OF THE KID!

BUT THE MAN DOESN'T LIVE WHO CAN BEAT THE TWO-GUN KID TO THE DRAW, NO MATTER WHICH HAND OR HOLSTER IS USED!

MY HAND!

BANG!

IN A MAD, PANICKY ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE THE KID'S TWO-GUN JUSTICE, DAWSON RACES ONTO THE ALREADY WEAKENED BRIDGE, AND...

YOU'LL *NEVER* GET ME—*NEVER!*

COME BACK, YOU FOOL!

BRETT—GET OFF THE BRIDGE—*IT'S FALLING! BRETT!*

BUT A SUDDEN THROW BY THE KID, AND GLORIA IS SAVED!

I CAN ONLY SAVE ONE OF 'EM BY LASSOIN', AND IT *WON'T* BE DAWSON!

OHHH!

YEOWWWWW!

AND, AN HOUR LATER, AFTER A FOND FAREWELL, THE TWO-GUN KID AGAIN SEEKS OUT THE DISTANT TRAILS OF ADVENTURE AND THRILLS!

AND NOW, THE SETTLERS HERE ABOUTS CAN LIVE IN PEACE, WITH BRETT GONE... AND THANKS TO *YOU*, I'VE REALIZED THE GREAT MISTAKE I ALMOST MADE! OH, KID, HOW CAN ANY OF US THANK YOU?

FIXIN' MY SHOULDER AND SMILIN' SO SWEET IS THANKS ENOUGH, LITTLE LADY! HASTA LA VISTA!

THE END

ADVICE TO COMIC READERS FOR

BAD SKIN

Stop Worrying Now About Pimples, Blackheads And Other Externally Caused Skin Troubles

JUST FOLLOW SKIN DOCTOR'S SIMPLE DIRECTIONS

By *Betty Memphis*

Have you ever stopped to realize that the leading screen stars whom you admire, as well as the beautiful models who have lovely, soft white skin, were all born *just like you* with a lovely smooth skin?

The truth is that many girls and women do not give their skin a chance to show off the natural beauty that lies hidden underneath those externally caused pimples, blackheads and irritations. For almost anyone can have the natural, normal complexion which is in itself beauty. All you have to do is follow a few amazingly simple rules.

Many women shut themselves out of the thrills of life — dates, romance, popularity, social and business success — only because sheer neglect has robbed them of the good looks, poise and feminine self-assurance which could so easily be theirs. Yes, everybody looks at your face. The beautiful complexion, which is yours for the asking, is like a permanent card of admission to all the good things of life that every woman craves. And it really can be yours—take my word for it! — no matter how discouraged you may be this very minute about those externally caused skin miseries.

Medical science gives us the truth about a lovely skin. There are small specks of dust and dirt in the air all the time. When these get into the open pores in your skin, they can in time cause the pores to become larger and more susceptible to dirt particles, dust and infection. These open pores begin to form blackheads which become infected and bring you the humiliation of pimples, blackheads or other blemishes. When you neglect your skin by not giving it the necessary care, you leave yourself wide open to externally caused skin miseries. Yet proper attention with the double Viderm treatment may mean the difference between enjoying the confidence a fine skin gives you or the embarrassment of an ugly, *un*beautiful skin that makes you want to hide your face.

The double Viderm treatment is a formula prescribed by a skin doctor with amazing success, and costs you only a few cents daily. This treatment consists of two jars. One contains Viderm Skin Cleanser, a jelly-like formula which penetrates and acts as an antiseptic upon your pores. After you use this special Viderm Skin Cleanser, you simply apply the Viderm Fortified Medicated Skin Cream. You rub this in, leaving an almost invisible protective covering for the surface of your skin.

This double treatment has worked wonders for so many cases of external skin troubles that it may help you, too —*in fact, your money will be refunded if it doesn't.* Use it for only ten days. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose. It is a guaranteed treatment. Enjoy it. Your dream of a clear, smooth complexion may come true in ten days or less.

Use your double Viderm treatment every day until your skin is smoother and clearer. Then use it only once a week to remove stale make-up and dirt specks that infect your pores, as well as to aid in healing external irritations. Remember that when you help prevent blackheads, you also help to prevent externally caused skin miseries and pimples.

Incidentally, while your two jars and the doctor's directions are on their way to you, be sure to wash your face as often as necessary. First use warm water, then cleanse with water as cold as you can stand it, in order to freshen, stimulate and help close your pores. After you receive everything, read your directions carefully. Then go right to it and let these two fine formulas help your dreams of a beautiful skin come true.

Just mail your name and address to Betty Memphis, care of the New York Skin Laboratory, 206 Division Street, Dept. 336 New York 2, N. Y. By return mail you will receive the doctor's directions, and both jars, packed in a safety-sealed carton. On delivery, pay two dollars plus postage. If you wish, you can save the postage fee by mailing the two dollars with your letter. If you are in any way dissatisfied, your money will be cheerfully refunded. To give you an idea of how fully tested and proven the Viderm double treatment is, it may interest you to know that, up to this month, over two hundred and twelve thousand women have ordered it on my recommendation. If you could only see the thousands of happy, grateful letters that have come to me as a result, you would know the joy this simple treatment can bring. And, think of it!— the treatment must work for *you*, or it doesn't cost you a cent.

THE SHERIFF

A HOSS CAN BE A GREAT *FRIEND*... OR A *TERRIBLE ENEMY!* I REMEMBER THE TIME A HOSS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE LIFE OF BAT MILLER!

SL-2565

YOU SURE PLAY A MEAN GAME OF CHECKERS, SHERIFF! THAT MAKES THE 794™ GAME YOU'VE WON IN THE PAST 12 YEARS!

WELL I... *LISTEN!* WHAT'S THAT?

THUD- NEIGHHHH- SLAP- CLOMP!

SOUNDS LIKE SOME- ONE GITTIN' *BEAT UP!*

WHY COULDN'T THIS HAVE INTERRUPTED OUR GAME *BEFORE* YOU BEAT ME?

I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S BOSS, YOU NO-ACCOUNT, SNIVELIN' COYOTE!

IT'S *BAT MILLER-BEATIN'* HIS NEW HORSE!

GIVE ME *THAT* WHIP, BAT!

HEY! WHADDAYA THINK *YER* DOING? HE'S *MY* HOSS!

I THINK I'M STOPPIN' YA FROM BEATIN' A DUMB CRITTER—AND *I* DON'T LIKE FISTS WAVIN' IN MY FACE!

AND THE *NEXT* TIME I HEAR OF YA BEATIN' A HORSE THATAWAY, I'M GONNA SLAP YA IN THE CLINK! NOW MAKE TRACKS!

THAT *VARMINT* THINKS HE'S PRETTY BIG BEHIND THAT TIN BADGE OF HIS! BUT I'LL *SHOW* 'IM—AND I'LL *SHOW* THIS HOSS, TOO! I'LL SHOW 'EM *ALL* WHO'S TOP MAN!

THAT BAT MILLER IS A *BAD* 'UN, SHERIFF!

YEAH—SOONER OR LATER HE'S GONNA BUCK THE LAW, AND *I'LL* BE RIGHT PROUD TA MAKE HIM A GUEST OF OUR LITTLE JAIL!

THE NEXT DAY, ON HIS WAY TO THE OFFICE, THE SHERIFF SEES...

HMM! THERE'S BAT'S HOSS AGIN—HITCHED IN FRONT OF THE BANK!

A HOSS LIKE THAT *DOESN'T* FORGET THINGS EASY! I'LL BET THAT *SOMEDAY* BAT WILL REGRET BEATING YOU, EH, FELLA?

LATER...

WOTTA LIFE! *NOTHING* EVER HAPPENS!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT, BAT MILLER STORMS INTO THE BANK!

I'LL SHOW 'EM ALL THAT BAT MILLER IS *TOP* MAN!

ALL RIGHT! I'LL *PLUG* THE *FIRST* COYOTE WHO DON'T GIT HIS HANDS UP *PRONTO!*

SUFFERIN' LONGHORNS! A *HOLDUP!*

WE'LL SEE IF THAT SNIVELIN' SHERIFF STILL FEELS SO HIGH AND MIGHTY WHEN THE BANK'S BEEN *ROBBED*, AND I'M MILES AWAY, ACROSS THE BORDER!

OH OH—HERE WE GO AGAIN!

BANG! BANG!

WITH A FEW HOLES IN THEIR *LEGS*, I FIGGER *NO ONE* IN THE BANK'LL BE ABLE TO CHASE ME! I'M IN THE CLEAR!

COME ON, RUSTY! SOUNDS LIKE TROUBLE!

RIGHT WITH YA, SHERIFF!

WITH THE *FASTEST* HOSS THIS SIDE OF THE RIO GRANDE, I GOT NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT!

LOOK—IT'S *BAT MILLER!* HE MUSTA ROBBED THE BANK! AND WE'LL NEVER CATCH HIM ON THAT HOSS O' *HIS!*

WE MAY *NOT HAVE* TO CATCH HIM!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY *THAT*, SHERIFF?

KEEP A-WATCHIN'!

SHERIFF— *LOOK!* HIS *HOSS*...

YEP— JES *LIKE* I FIGGERED!

YEOWW!!

NEIGH

LOOKS LIKE BAT FIGGERED ON EVERYTHING *EXCEPT* HIS HOSS *REMEMBERIN'* THAT *BEATING!*

YEP! RECKON AS HOW I JES' WON A LITTLE BET WITH MYSELF ABOUT THAT HOSS!

THE END

TWO HUNGRY HIKERS

BILL JUDSON and Bob Frawley, aged 15 and 16 respectively, were comfortably stretched out on the porch of a trading post some 50 miles north of Prince Albert, in Canada. Though it was early in the morning, the sun was warm and pleasant, and the two boys relaxed contentedly.

"This beats cramming the old dream-box for a quiz session, doesn't it?" queried Bill lazily.

"It's my idea of country life exactly," yawned Bob. "I hope your dad decides to stay up here all summer."

Spring term had just ended, and, as Bill had put it, with their brains still buzzing from the last exam, his father's suggestion that they accompany him to the northern country was extremely welcome. The area to which they had come was very sparsely populated. At the trading post, where they were staying, there was only the agent, Mac, and nothing at all to do except loaf until Mr. Judson completed the inspection of some property he had acquired. But the boys didn't mind; later there would be plenty of fishing and exploring. For the time being they were content to take it easy.

The agent came out on the porch and looked down at his two indolent guests. "How would you boys like to do me a favor?" he asked.

Bill looked up at him with half-open eyes. "Anything, Mac, if it doesn't take us too far away from this porch and if you promise we can come right back to it."

Mac chuckled. "Sure. Sure. What I would like you to do," he explained, "is to help me deliver some supplies. "One of the trappers is waiting for them. The only trouble is, I can't drive to much more than within a mile or so of his cabin, so you'll have to tote the stuff on in."

Bill sat up. "A whole mile? The way I feel today I could just get to your car without falling asleep."

"It'll be a good hike for you," said Mac. "Honestly, it'll help me out a lot. I probably won't be seeing anybody for several days who could help me and I know that Sam needs the stuff."

"I was just kidding," returned Bill, getting to his feet. He nudged Bob with his foot. "C'mon, Bob. We're going to be a safari."

Bob got up, complaining good-naturedly. "I'll bet this trip up here was just a trick to force me into the lists of slave labor."

A few minutes later they were bouncing along in Mac's old car over a rough dirt road. Shortly, Mac branched off on to a trail that led through the forest. Bill and Bob couldn't see where the road went at all, but Mac wound in and out among the trees with complete assurance. He stopped in a small clearing and pointed to a foot-path that led into the trees.

"This is far as I can go with this old tin bucket of mine," he announced. "There's the path that leads to Sam's cabin. If Sam isn't home, just leave the stuff inside anyway. The door will be open. I want to drive down and see another customer. I'll pick you up here again in about two hours."

The two boys got out of the car and pulled after them a large, heavy box. It was awkward to handle alone, but Mac had provided grips on either end so that they could carry it together with some comfort. With the old car coughing and spitting, Mac backed around and left them alone. Bob took a deep breath.

"Ahhh. Get the smell of those pines. You'll never find ozone like this on the campus of good old Laurel High."

"And we'll never get this box to Sam if you stand here breathing up all the oxygen," retorted Bill. "Grab the other end!"

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THE MAGICIAN. Dept. T5

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Bob made a low bow. "Just call me the genie. I'm at your service." When he straightened up he was holding one end of the box. "Wonder what Sam has in here that he needs so badly?"

"Who knows?" shrugged Bill. Holding his end of the box he preceded Bob down the narrow path. "Traps. Fishing tackle. Gunpowder. Whatever you need to live up here, I guess."

Soon the forest pressed closer in around them. The path grew narrower, though it was still easy to follow. At one place Bill paused. "Hey, look, Bob!" he called softly.

Bob craned his neck until he could see over Bill's shoulder. In the path before them, not a dozen yards away, a brown bear reared up on his hind legs and regarded them curiously. Bob conquered a quick rush of panic and suggested prudently. "Let's not stand here. Let's get going back where we came from!"

"Aw, he won't hurt us," scoffed Bill. "I've got a book at home that says bears never bother you unless you bother them first."

The bear dropped to its four feet and padded a step towards them. "I . . . I don't think this bear has read that book," said Bob. "Let's just detour around him."

"I think you're right," agreed Bill hastily. "In fact, let's make a big detour."

Actually, the bear had been as startled as the boys and was already swinging off the path, but they didn't wait to make sure. Plunging into the deep forest, they began a wide circle around the spot where the bear had stood. It was rough going and the box made it doubly difficult. They traveled a long time without coming back to the path. At last, Bob voiced a suspicion both had been harboring for some time.

"Shouldn't we be getting back to the path? My stomach tells me it's past lunchtime."

Bill looked at his watch. "Your stomach is right. It's past noon. I can't figure out how we missed the path."

For another hour the two boys stumbled on through the undergrowth, stopping now and then for a few minute's rest. "Bill," said Bob, during one of these breathing spells, "I think we're lost."

Bill thoughtfully chewed a fingernail. "Yeah. I think so too. But we can't be so awfully far from the trail because we haven't been traveling very fast."

"Uh-huh," Bob replied. "Anyway, Mac will be looking for us, so we don't have to worry."

"Oh, I'm not worried. But I could sure use some food right now. It's been a long time since breakfast."

Early sunset found the boys still in the deep woods, sitting on the box and trying desperately to calculate directions. "Boy, I could eat nails right now," said Bob. "Whoever said country air gave you an appetite was sure right."

"That book I have at home says people can get sustenance out of chewing a piece of leather," offered Bill. "I could just about try it, now."

"Don't tempt me," replied Bob. "Look. Let's leave the box here and try following our trail back. We're bound to hit the path then."

The box was left and the boys tramped off. The shadows grew deeper as the evening twilight faded and it became hard to follow the trail of broken underbrush the boys had left. Suddenly, a buckskin-clad figure burst through the foliage and confronted them.

"Well, so here you are," snorted the figure. "I'm Sam. Mac got worried and we've been looking for you. From the trail you two tenderfeet left I could see that you were circling around a few yards from my cabin. Where's the box of stuff?"

Relief flooding his face, Bill explained. "We . . . er . . . got off the path and had to drop the box back a'ways. We got so hungry we just didn't have the energy to carry it any further."

"It won't be hard to find," said Sam. He started to move off.

"Hey, wait!" called Bill. "Couldn't we . . . er . . . get it after supper?"

Sam chuckled. "Youngster, what's in that box is going to be supper! It's packed with canned weiners, beans, and about every other kind of grub I couldn't get all winter!"

Bill and Bob stared at each other. "Bob," said Bill solemnly, "if you kick me, I'll gladly return the favor."

SL-1795

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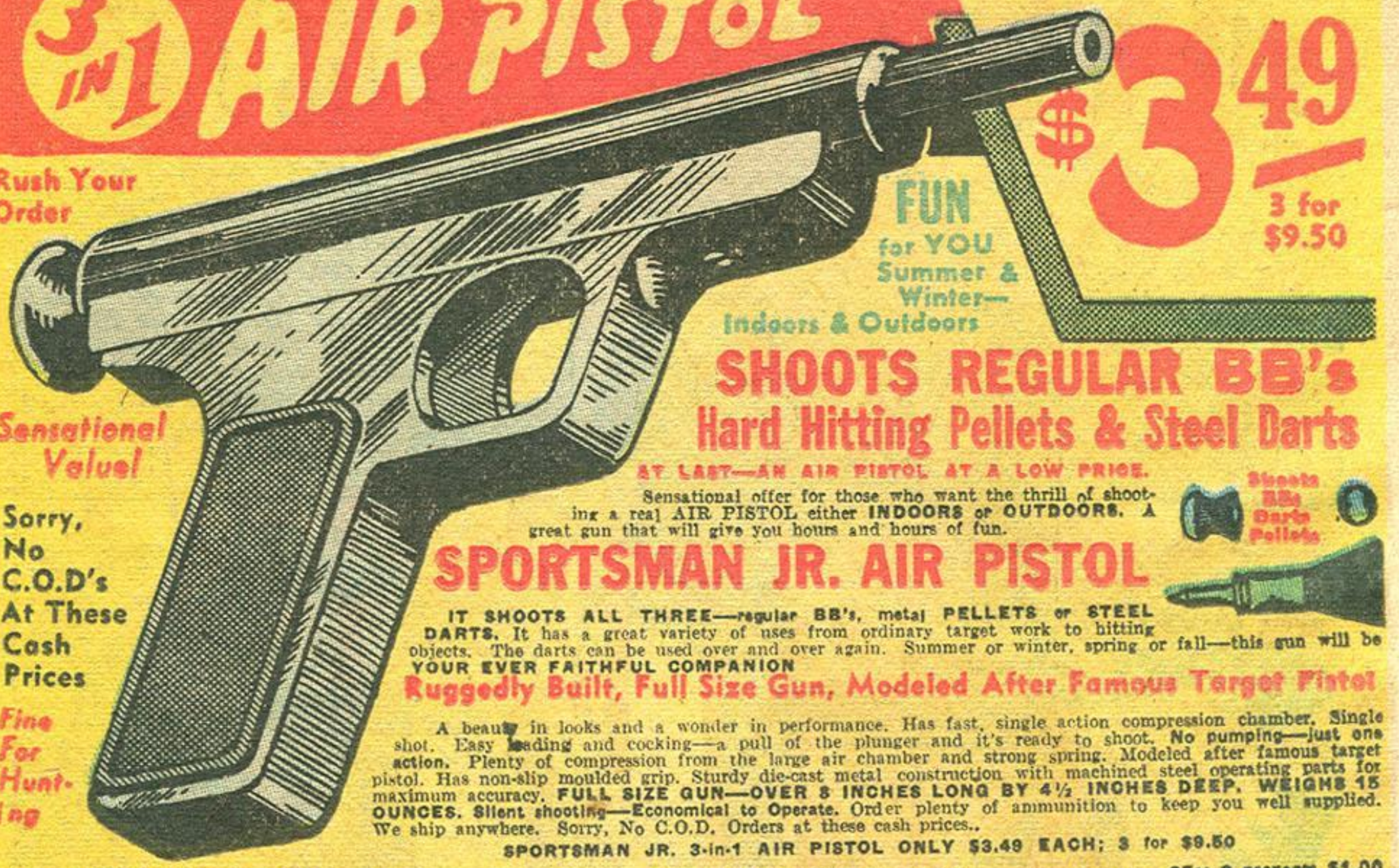

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STAMP NEWS

By KENT B. STILES

When political independence is achieved by a people, postal paper invariably is issued which reflects such transition. So it is now with Burma, which was a British possession in Asia and which was part of India prior to April of 1937.

Burma's attainment of freedom from Great Britain on Jan. 6, 1948, is accompanied by a definitive series of postal stamps which reflect the circumstances that Burma is now a sovereign nation in its own right.

The Burmese postal administration has selected as the central design of Burma's new stamps a portrait of a man who sacrificed his life in behalf of the people he led - U Aung San, an Army General who was Burma's Premier.

After Britain promised Burma independence, following the defeat of the Japanese who had invaded Burma during World War Two, the Burmese set up what was known as an "Interim Government" to prepare for the day (this Jan. 6) of freedom. U Aung San was chairman of the Executive Council which exercised political control during the interim period, and his title was Prime Minister.

On July 19, 1947, gunmen representing U Aung San's enemies forced their way into the legislative chamber while the executive body was in session at Rangoon, Burma's capital city. The gunmen sprayed the room with bullets, and U Aung San and five other interim leaders were assassinated. So it was logical that the Burmese should, with reverence, place U Aung San's likeness on the first definitive stamps.

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Every collector should have at least a few stamps nearly 100 years old. Although hard to get, we offer a wonderful selection of ten old 19th Century foreign stamps and also the blue re-issue of the 100 year old first U. S. Stamp, the famous 5c Franklin. All for only 10c. Kindly state whether approvals shall consist of U. S. or foreign stamps or both.
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MYSTIC STAMP COMPANY, Dept. 3, CAMDEN, NEW YORK

THE TWO-GUN KID

THERE IS MORE AT STAKE THAN MERELY CATCHING THESE CUNNING BANK ROBBERS, WHO PLUNDER AND KILL, AND THEN DISAPPEAR INTO THE NIGHT! THIS TIME, **THE TWO-GUN KID** HIMSELF, IS ACCUSED OF THE CRIMES! BUT EVEN **MORE** IMPORTANT TO THE KID THAN SAVING HIS NECK FROM THE NOOSE IS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT NOW HE ALONE MUST UPHOLD HONORABLY...

"The CODE of the WEST!"

TELLER

2546

ADVENTURE AND DRAMA CAN ENTER OUR LIVES IN MANY WAYS! FOR THE TWO-GUN KID, IT ALL BEGAN ONE DAY IN DRY GULCH, NEVADA, WITH A CRY OF TERROR!

NO-NO-NO! DON'T SHOOT!

SORRY, HOMBRE! I JES' NATURALLY HAVE AN ITCHY TRIGGER FINGER!

LET'S MAKE TRACKS, BOSS!

AIEEE!

BANG!

COME ON, YOU PACK OF WHIMPERIN' PRAIRIE DOGS! HIT THAT LEATHER!

THE MANGY COYOTES STAMPEDED OUR HOSSES, SO WE *CAN'T* FOLLOW!

DRY GULCH SALOON

HOTEL

20 MINUTES LATER, A POSSE IS FORMED...

RUSTLE YER HAUNCHES, MEN! THEY GOT A BIG LEAD ON US!

DEEP INTO THE MESA, THEY RIDE...

KEEP THEM SPURS CLANKIN', MEN! WE'RE ON THE TRAIL!

20 MINUTES LATER...

LOOKS LIKE WE DONE LOST 'EM *AG'IN!*

THEM VARMINTS MUST PLUMB *EVAPORATE* WHEN THEY REACH DUSTY CANYON!

SUDDENLY...

LOOK! A RIDER!

I GOT TWO GUNS THAT BARK AND ROAR, THEY'RE SHOOTING DAY AND NIGHT, I GOT TWO GUNS AND WISH I HAD FOUR BECAUSE I LIKE TO FIGHT!

HOLD ON, SON! JEST WHO ARE YA AND WHERE'RE YA FROM?

WELL, DON'T RECKON AS HOW THAT'S MUCH OF A WELCOME FOR A STRANGER IN THESE HERE PARTS, SHERIFF!

GET HIM OFF THAT THERE HORSE, LEM! WE'LL SEE WHAT HE HAS TO SAY!

LOOK AT THIS, SHERIFF — A MONEY BELT LOADED DOWN WITH *GOLD!*

YOU DIDN'T RECKON IT'D BE LOADED DOWN WITH **CATTLE**, DIDJA?

TELL ME, SHERIFF, WHAT'S UP?

I SHORE WILL, SON!

I'M FIGGERIN' YORE ONE OF THE BUNCH THAT JUST ROBBED DRY GULCH BANK! I CAUGHT YOU WITH THE *GOLD ON YA!* AND NOW I'M AIMIN' TO GIVE YA A NECKTIE PARTY! *READY,* BOYS?

FASTER THAN ANY HUMAN EYE CAN FOLLOW — AS IF BY MAGIC, TWO ANGRY SIX-SHOOTERS APPEAR IN THE KID'S HANDS!

I'M NOT READY! GIT YORE HANDS UP — *ALL* OF YOU!

BANG!

I *DON'T* LIKE NECKTIE PARTIES — ESPECIALLY WITH *MY* NECK! I *NEVER* ROBBED ANY BANK! AND THE GOLD I'M CARRYING IS *MY OWN!*

AFTER HIM!

YOU'LL BE HEARIN' FROM ME AG'IN!

LOOKA THAT HORSE GO!

IT WON'T DO NO GOOD TO CHASE *THAT* HOSS, MEN!

WHY NOT?

DIDN'T YOU RECOGNIZE THAT CRITTER? HE'S THE *ONLY* HOMBRE IN THE WEST THAT CAN DRAW AND SHOOT SO FAST—WITH A HOSS THAT *NO* OTHER HOSS CAN CATCH!

YOU—YOU MEAN—THE **TWO-GUN KID?**

THAT'S HIM ALL RIGHT!

WHEW—*HE* SURE AIN'T *NO* BANK ROBBER!

YOU CAN'T BE SURE OF *ANYONE*, LEM—NOT OF *ANYONE!*

MEANWHILE, BACK TO THE TWO-GUN KID... AS HE GALLOPS PAST A HUGE, NATURAL ROCK FORMATION, HE HEARS...

KID! *WAIT!*

WHAT'S THAT?

I SAW THE *WHOLE* THING! I'M KITTY WINN! I RECOGNIZED YOU AT ONCE—*YOU'RE* THE TWO-GUN KID!

GLAD TO MAKE YORE ACQUAINTANCE, MA'AM!

MY FATHER IS SHERIFF WINN, THE MAN WHO *ALMOST HANGED* YOU! THESE BANK ROBBERIES HAVE MADE HIM *SUSPICIOUS* OF *EVERYONE!*

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, MA'AM! I AIM TO FIND THE *REAL* ROBBERS AND CLEAR MY *OWN NAME!*

I CAN TAKE YOU TO A HIDEOUT WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE FROM THE POSSE TILL THE CASE IS SOLVED!

THAT'S RIGHT KIND OF YOU, MA'AM! JUST LEAD ON!

ONLY I KNOW OF THIS PLACE! I CALL IT **HIDDEN VALLEY!** IT'S A MILE OFF THE MAIN TRAIL!

HMMM, IT SHORE IS LONELY...

THIS IS A LITTLE CABIN I OFTEN COME TO! YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE! NOW CAN I HELP YOU IN SOME WAY? I'M A GOOD RIDER, AND I KNOW THE COUNTRY VERY WELL!

NO, THANKS, MA'AM! YOU'VE BEEN MIGHTY KIND! BUT I'LL MANAGE ***ALONE*** FROM NOW ON! I'LL GIT IN TOUCH WITH YOU ***IF*** I ***NEED YOU!***

I'LL GO NOW, THEN! GOOD-BY— AND GOOD LUCK!

AS SOON AS THE GIRL DISAPPEARS FROM SIGHT, THE TWO-GUN KID LEAPS INTO ACTION!

SHE'S GONE NOW! CYCLONE, YOU AND ME HAVE SOME ***HARD*** RIDING TO DO!

I KNOW THIS COUNTRY ***BETTER*** THAN THAT GAL THINKS! NOW OUR FIRST STOP IS THE SHERIFF'S HOUSE— AND WE'LL TAKE MY ***OWN*** SHORT CUT!

LATER, AT THE HOUSE OF SHERIFF WINN...

WONDER WHEN THAT GAL OF MINE'LL BE GETTIN' HOME? IT'S DINNER TIME, AND IT'S GETTIN' DARK!

I'LL HAVE A LOOK-SEE AROUND THE PLACE! SHE MIGHTA STOPPED TO FETCH SOME PRESERVES!

SUDDENLY, LIKE A WHITE RATTLESNAKE, A ROPE LASHES OUT...

WHA...?

NOW JEST STAY CALM, SHERIFF! I AIM TO TAKE A LITTLE TRIP WITH YOU! GIT ON YORE HOSS!

THE TWO-GUN KID! WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?

I'M TAKIN' YA TO SOMEPLACE WHERE I'M GONNA PROVE THAT I HAD *NOTHIN'* TA DO WITH THOSE BANK ROBBERIES!

THE *ONLY* WAY YOU CAN PROVE THAT, IS TO CATCH ME THE *REAL* THIEVIN' COYOTES!

MAYBE I *AIM* TO DO *THAT* TOO!

LATER, BACK IN HIDDEN VALLEY...

YOU CAN GET DOWN NOW- YORE GONNA STAY *HERE* FOR A SPELL!

WHY DO YOU WANT ME *HERE?*

THOSE BANK THIEVES HAVE BEEN ROBBIN' ONE BANK A NIGHT! I'M GONNA KEEP YOU FOR THREE NIGHTS! THEN, WHEN YOU HEAR OF ALL THE ROBBINGS AFTER *I'VE* BEEN *HERE WITH YOU*, YOU'LL KNOW THAT *I'M INNOCENT!*

THAT WON'T PROVE ANYTHING!

AS LONG AS I'M BEHIND THE BUSINESS END OF THIS HERE SIX-SHOOTER, IT PROVES A *LOT,* LAWMAN!

AND SO, THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS LATER - THE SHERIFF AND THE KID LEAVE THE CABIN...

O.K., SHERIFF - LET'S MAKE TRACKS NOW!

IT WAS JUST BLAME FOOLISHNESS YOU KEEPING ME HERE! AND *YOU'LL* LIVE TO *REGRET* IT!

AFTER TWO HOURS OF HARD RIDING, THE DUO REACHES TOWN...

REMEMBER! *NO* TRICKS NOW! I'D HATE TO HAVE TO USE THIS NERVOUS LITTLE COLT ON YOU!

YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS, KID!

GENERAL STORE

SAY, COWBOY - ANY NEW BANK ROBBERIES THESE PAST THREE DAYS?

NOPE, NARY A ONE! FUNNY THING THEY JUST PLUMB *STOPPED!*

SAY, AIN'T THAT THE *TWO-GUN KID?*

YEAH, AND HE'S WANTED BY THE SHERIFF!

NO *ROBBERIES!* WELL, I'LL BE...

BUT THE SHERIFF IS *WITH* HIM!

LET'S GO, BLACKIE! THE TWO-GUN KID WON'T EVER SHOOT ANYONE IN THE *BACK!*

HEY! COME BACK HERE!

GET THAT HOMBRE! HE'S THE TWO-GUN KID! *GET HIM!*

I THOUGHT THERE WAS *SOMETHING* FUNNY!

TRAPPED IN THE CENTER OF TOWN, THE KID TRIES TO RACE FOR SAFETY, BUT A SHOT RINGS OUT, AND...

LOOKS LIKE WE'D BETTER GIT, CYCL... *OHH!*

BANG!

GOT HIM!

THE KID RECOVERS CONSCIOUSNESS IN THE TOWN JAIL...

HE'LL BE O.K! JUST A FLESH WOUND!

HE'D BETTER BE GOOD ENOUGH TO STAND TRIAL AND GIT *HUNG* TOMORROW!

WELL, KID, YORE LITTLE SCHEME *DIDN'T* WORK! YORE MEN DIDN'T PULL ANY MORE ROBBERIES WITHOUT YOU, AND I'VE *GOT YOU NOW!* I RECKON YOU AIN'T AS CRAFTY AS YORE CRACKED UP TO BE!

I'VE GOTTA GIT OUTTA HERE! ANY JURY'LL HANG ME TOMORROW FOR SURE!

SUDDENLY, AT THE CELL WINDOW...

KID-PSSST-C'MERE!

KITTY! AM *I* GLAD TO SEE *YOU!*

I BROUGHT YOU A FILE-YOUR GUNS, AND YOUR HORSE! I CAN'T LET MY DAD HAVE YOU HANGED! I *KNOW* HE'S MISTAKEN ABOUT YOU!

YORE RIGHT, GAL-AND NOW I'LL *BE ABLE* TO *PROVE* IT!

OH, HURRY! SOMEONE MAY BE ALONG ANY MINUTE!

I'M ONLY USING A FILE, KITTY, NOT A CAN OF ACID! BUT I'M *ALMOST* THROUGH!

MOMENTS LATER!

THERE—NOW TO GIVE CYCLONE SOME EXERCISE! BETTER MAKE TRACKS, YORESELF, GAL, BEFORE YORE SEEN!

LEAVE TOWN, KID, BEFORE THEY GET YOU AGAIN!

JAIL

HELP! THE TWO-GUN KID GOT AWAY! GIT HIM!

FASTER, CYCLONE! YORE PRACTICALLY CREEPING!

KEEP ARUNNIN', CYCLONE! YOU'LL BE MILES AWAY BEFORE THEY SEE THAT I AIN'T ON YOU!

NOW TO PLAY MY HUNCH AND VISIT THE NATIONAL BANK! THE *ONLY* BANK IN DRY GULCH THAT AIN'T BEEN ROBBED!

AN HOUR LATER, A HORDE OF CRAVEN KILLERS GALLOP UP TO THE BANK...

MAKE IT *FAST*, MEN!

NATIONAL BANK

NO-NO! DON'T SHOOT! TAKE WHAT YOU WANT! BUT DON'T SHOOT!

DID I JUST SEE YOU *TRY* TO REACH FOR YOUR GUN?

YEOWW!

MEBBE YOU *DID*, VARMINT! WHAT ABOUT IT?

BANG!

IT-IT'S THE *TWO-GUN KID!* *BLAST HIM,* MEN!

I'LL GIT THE MANGY C--- OHHH!

BANG!

ANYONE *ELSE* WANNA TRY BLASTIN' ME?

TAKE CARE OF THESE OTHER HOMBRES, TELLER! I'M GONNA HAVE A TALK WITH THIS VARMINT!

I'LL TAKE CARE OF 'EM ALL RIGHT!

SUDDENLY!

YOU'LL NEVER GIT ME! NEVER! UGH!

CRASH!

ALL THAT SHOOTING—THE KID MUST BE— *OH*— IT'S—IT'S---

HE TRIED TO ESCAPE, KITTY! BUT HE TRIED THE WRONG WAY!

JUST AS WELL HE GOT IT *THIS* WAY AS AT THE END OF A ROPE!

IT'S-IT'S THE LEADER OF THE BANK THIEVES, ISN'T IT?

I DON'T RECKON YOU WANNA BE LOOKING WHILE I TAKE HIS MASK OFF, MISS KITTY!

NO-I-I *KNOW* WHO HE IS (SOB) *I KNOW!*

DRY GULCH

ST OFF

JEST *WHO* I THOUGHT! I'M SORRY!

I GUESSED IT FROM THE START WHEN HE TRIED TO *LYNCH* ME! HE WAS TOO ANXIOUS TO PIN THE BLAME ON *SOMEONE ELSE!*

AND THEN WHEN *NO* ROBBERIES OCCURRED WHILE I HAD HIM IN THE CABIN WITH ME, I *KNEW!* AND I KNEW *HE'D TRY* THE BANK *TONIGHT* – WHEN I ESCAPED, TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE IT WAS *ME* FOR SURE!

YOU KNEW WHO IT WAS ALL THE TIME – THAT'S WHY YOU HELPED ME!

YES, I KNEW! BUT I COULDN'T STOP HIM – I JUST *COULDN'T!*

YORE A BRAVE GAL, MISS KITTY! ADIOS, AND GOOD LUCK!

I GUESS IT WAS B-BEST THIS WAY-- IT WAS *BEST!*

I GOT TWO GUNS THAT BARK AND ROAR, THEY'RE SHOOTING DAY AND NIGHT, I GOT TWO GUNS AND WISH I HAD FOUR, BECAUSE I LIKE TO FIGHT!

THE END

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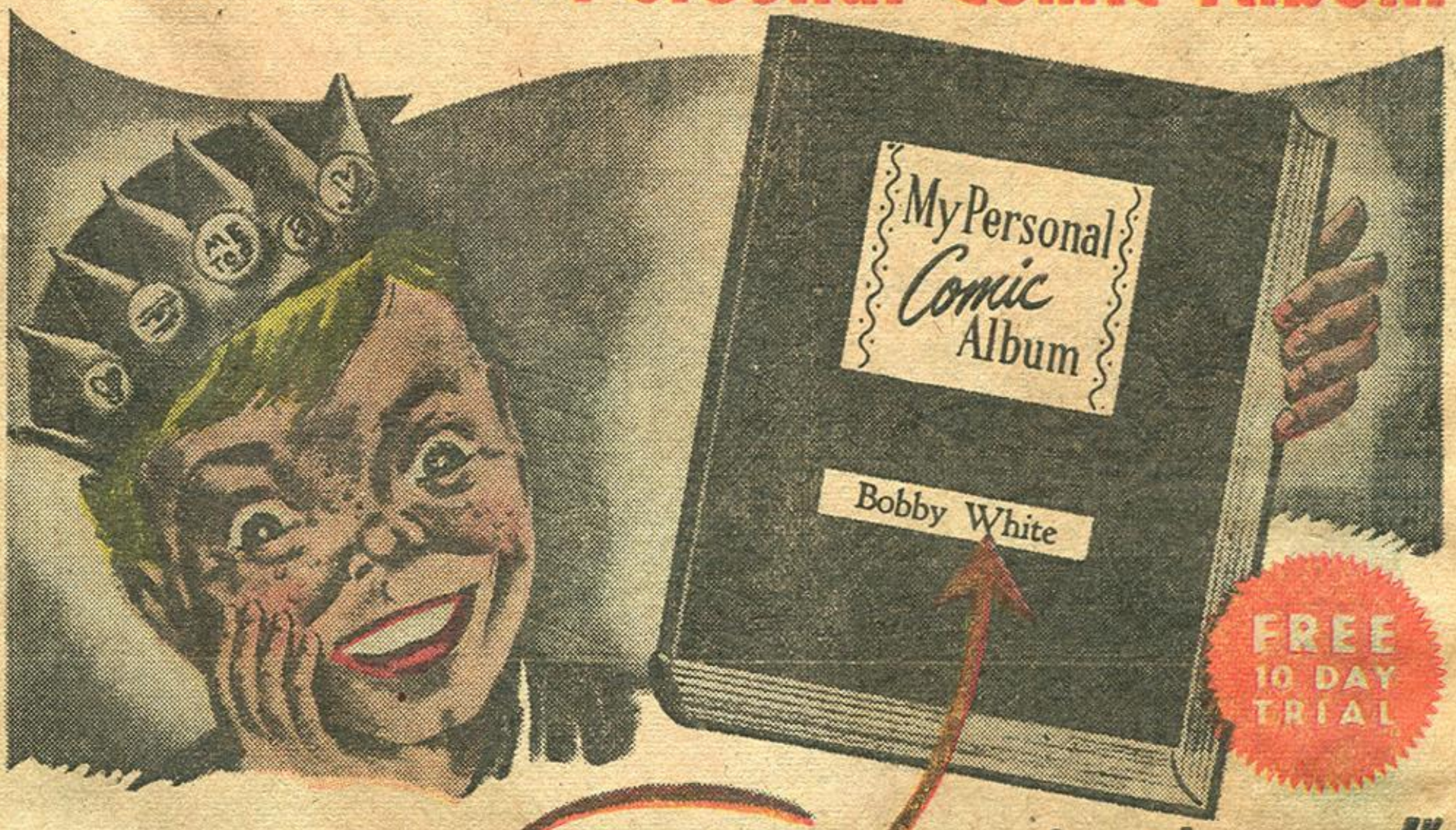

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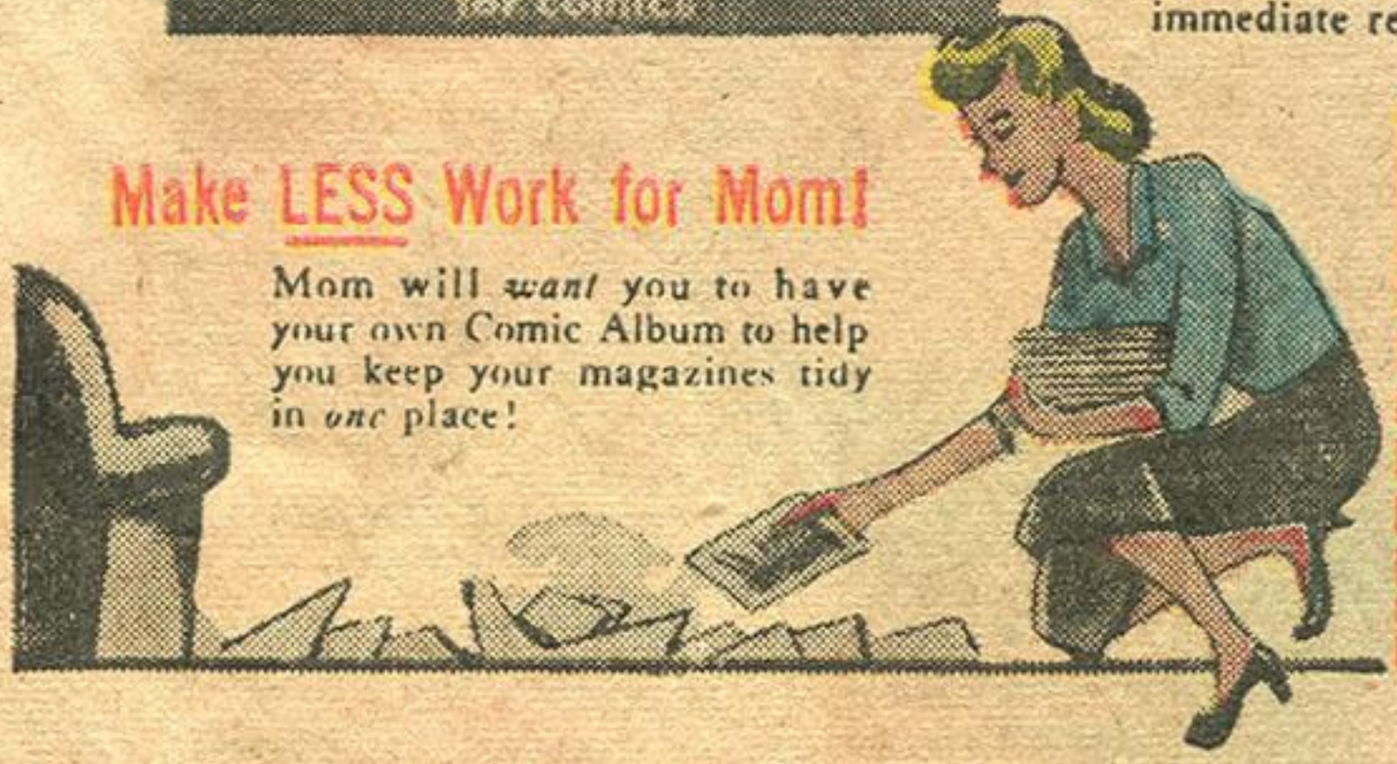

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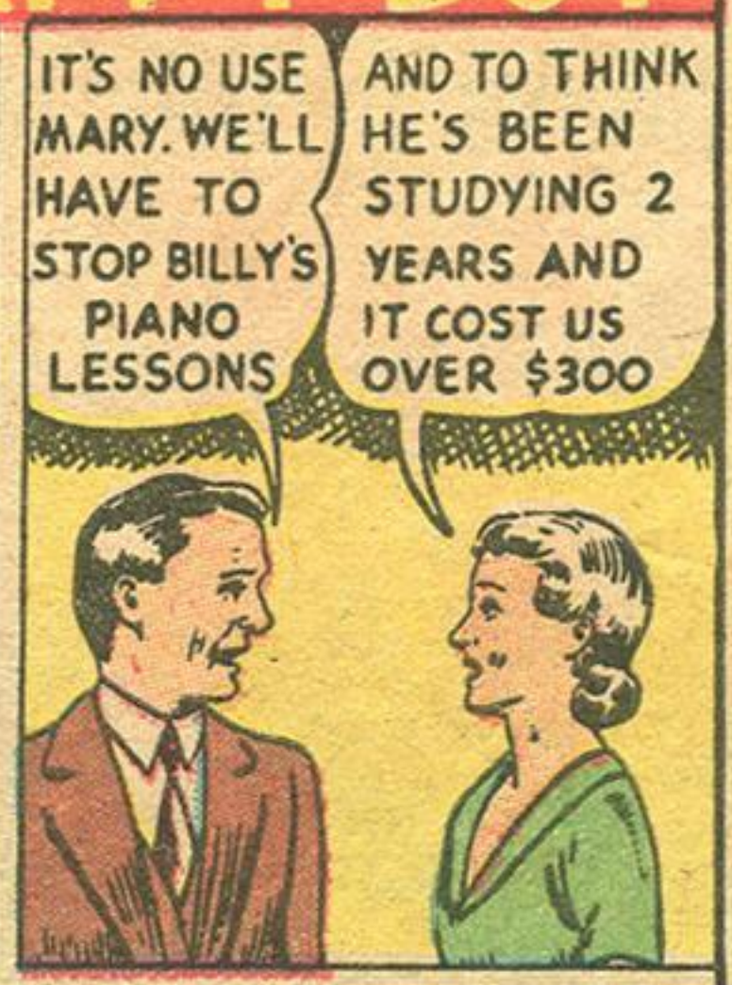
PLEASE PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR PIANO LESSON BILLY! YOU'LL NEVER LEARN THAT WAY
AW! WISH I COULD JOIN MY PALS. THIS PIANO TEACHER GIVES ME A PAIN



HOW'D YOU LEARN TO PLAY PIANO SO WELL AND SO FAST.. BOBBY
IT'S A CINCH BILLY. WITH A SLIDE-CHORD DEVICE ANYONE CAN LEARN TO PLAY IN A JIFFY

IMAGINE DEAR, HOW MUCH MONEY WE COULD HAVE SAVED IF BILLY HAD KNOWN OF THAT SLIDE-CHORD DEVICE
AND HE WOULD HAVE PLAYED SO NICELY 2 YEARS AGO

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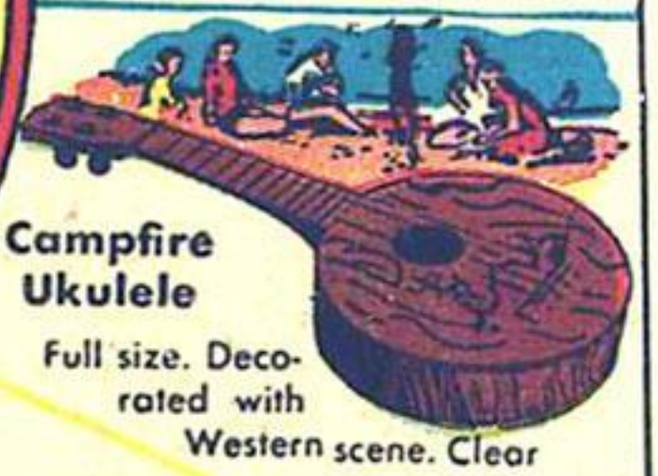

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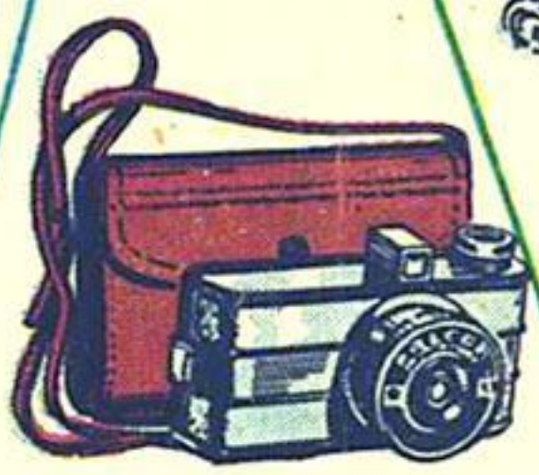

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